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Current Events

[Edited by Clarence W. Gleason, Roxbury Latin School, Boston, Mass., for the territory covered by the Association of New England and the Atlantic States; Daniel W. Lothman, East High School, Cleveland, Ohio, for the Middle States, west to the Mississippi River; Walter Miller, the University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo., for the Southern States; and Franklin H. Potter, the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, for the territory of the Association west of the Mississippi, exclusive of Louisiana and Texas. News from the Pacific Coast may be sent to Miss Julianne A. Roller, Franklin High School, Portland, Ore., and to Miss Bertha Green, Hollywood High School, Los Angeles, Cal. This department will present everything that is properly news—occurrences from month to month, meetings, changes in faculties, performances of various kinds, etc. All news items should be sent to the associate editors named above.]

Colorado

University of Denver.—The Classical Club recently held an open meeting, at which Professor E. D. Cressman delivered a lecture on Vergil's *Aeneid*, illustrated by stereopticon slides. The club, now in its third year, holds monthly meetings, usually at the homes of the members. The programs consist of many topics on classical life and literature which are not treated in the regular classroom work. The large increase in the number of students taking both Latin and Greek is very encouraging.

Georgia

Atlanta.—The Dramatic Club of the Girls' High School, under the direction of Miss Anabel Horn have recently dramatized, filmed, and presented "Aeneas' Descent into Avernus." The event is described by Mr. Dudley Glass in the *Atlanta Georgian* as follows:

"Aeneas' Descent into Avernus," the dramatization of the sixth book of Virgil presented on the screen by students of the Atlanta Girls' High School, is a revelation of the possibilities of the motion picture in schools and colleges. The shadowy figures of the frequently dry-as-dust textbooks become living, breathing men and women. No girl who took a part in the picture play will ever forget her Virgil, and the younger pupils who watched the adventures of Aeneas on the screen will take up the study of Latin with interest instead of dread. The amateur players were well trained, and the picture is one of exceptional beauty, dramatically and photographically.

And by Mr. Turner Jones in the *Atlanta Constitution*:

Motion pictures have long been recognized as one of the greatest social influences of modern times and today are taking their place beside Church, Press and School. The "picturization" of the sixth book of Virgil by Miss Anabel Horn, chairman of the board of Junior dramatics of the Girls' High School assisted by the English teachers of that institution, constitutes one of the first determined efforts to lift the art from the showman's plane and judiciously to guide a hitherto undirected force in society.

The pedagogical possibilities opened up by this accomplishment appear unlimited. Participation in such dramatic productions will give the impetus to study of the personal element and the presentation of the pictures before students will awaken dormant interests by the realistic rendition.

From an artistic standpoint the sixth book of Virgil is a masterpiece, combining the classical charm of the myth with nature's most beautiful settings and real dramatic ability.

Massachusetts

Boston.—The fourteenth annual meeting of the Eastern Massachusetts Section of the Classical Association of New England was held in conjunction with the Classical Club of Greater Boston at Harvard University, on Saturday, February 12, with the following program:

"A Word of Welcome," Rev. Willard Reed, President of the Classical Club of Greater Boston; "The Latin Comprehensive Examination," Mr. Earl W. Taylor, Roxbury Latin School; "An Experiment in Vocational Latin," Miss C. Carlotta Wiswall, Melrose High School; "Latin and Dressmaking," Miss Grace W. Ripley, 372 Boylston St., Boston; "Latin and Salesmanship," Miss Grace T. Blanchard, High School of Practical Arts, Boston; "Standardized Tests and the Teaching of Latin," Professor Alexander J. Inglis, Harvard University; Lantern Talk: "Excavating in the Sudan," Mr. Dows Dunham, Assistant Curator of Egyptian Art, Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

Mr. Reed in his "Word of Welcome" borrowed a happy expression from friends of the Unitarian faith, and urged each member of the club to interest persons other than teachers in the cause of the classics, to the end that a Laymen's League might be formed.

Mr. Taylor gave a detailed account of his experiences in correcting College Entrance Board Examinations, and demonstrated that full justice is given to each candidate.

Miss Wiswall reviewed the work now going on in Vocational Latin, and outlined the methods pursued in her classes in the Melrose High. It is encouraging to note that Latin is now a required study in this school for all pupils in the Secretarial Course.

A living model, clad in ancient costume, featured the address of Miss Ripley, illustrating the connection between the past and present. Miss Blanchard's strong paper demonstrated the practical value of Latin for saleswomen and salesmen.

Professor Inglis' paper was of unusual interest, and all present would gladly have listened to a longer address on the subject of the application of the principles of modern Psychology to the teaching of Greek and Latin.

There was a large and enthusiastic audience, and the meeting was one of the most successful in the history of the club, owing in no small degree to the painstaking efforts of the secretary, Mr. Clarence W. Gleason, of the Roxbury Latin School.

It is hoped to arrange for an exhibition of moving pictures on classical subjects for the next meeting, to be held on the afternoon of March 19, at the High School of Practical Arts, Winthrop and Greenville streets, Roxbury.

Ohio

Marion.—Junior and Senior girls of the Latin Department of the Marion High School (recently christened the Harding High School) have maintained "Inter Nos" organizations for eight years. Membership eligibility is based on scholarship. Every three weeks meetings are held at the girls' homes, where a social hour with refreshments follows the program.

The Junior girls in their club usually take up a study of the private life of the Romans or follow Miss Paxson's suggestions in her *Handbook for Latin Clubs*, introducing special features such as Latin songs, original stories with classical background, and parodies on the Latin authors studied in high school. At each meeting the president appoints one girl to have a surprise at their next gathering; these surprises may be in the nature of Latin puzzles or contests, or perhaps the girls may be asked to dress Roman dolls.

The Senior girls' programs consist for the most part of studies in mythology or stories from mythology. The meeting at which the subject "Was Aeneas Justified in His Treatment of Dido?" was debated and a story of "Dido Up-to-Date" was read, is usually a guest meeting.

Recently a Roman senate has been organized for the Sophomore, Junior, and Senior boys attaining the grade of "A" in Latin. Officers are consuls, praetors, quaestors, and aediles. Programs include debates and discussions on current topics. We have also introduced dramatizations of the senate scenes of which Cicero tells us in the third and fourth Catilinarian Orations.

The Latin department on February 19 presented Professor F. J. Miller's dramatization from Virgil, "Dido."

Cincinnati.—Under the auspices of the Cincinnati Classical Club, Miss Dorothea Spinney of Stratford-on-Avon, gave two very interesting readings at the University of Cincinnati on February 23 and February 25. The first of the readings was the *Alcestis* of Euripides, the second being the *Antigone* of Sophocles. Miss Spinney's charming interpretations delighted the many friends she had in Cincinnati, who were happy to welcome her once more. The readings were followed by a tea in the Woman's Building.

On Saturday, February 26, was held the Seventeenth Annual Conference of the Schools Affiliated with the University of Cincinnati. The Classical Club of Cincinnati in conjunction with the Classical Language Section of the conference brought here Professor Wm. A. Oldfather, of the University of Illinois, who read an interesting paper on "The Sayings of Jesus Recorded Outside of the New Testament," including interesting material from Egyptian papyri.

The other numbers that added to the very interesting afternoon were "The Roman School Teacher and his Reward," by Dr. Rodney Robinson, of

the University of Cincinnati, and "Traces of Greek Life in Modern Egypt," by Mr. Alfred M. Dame, formerly of Walnut Hills High School, Cincinnati, now of the faculty of Washington and Jefferson University.

Virginia

The Randolph-Macon Woman's College has had the privilege of seeing nine Greek plays during the past twelve years. It is the aim of the Greek Department to make the play an annual event; but in some years there is not enough dramatic talent in the classes to justify the undertaking. The plays indicated have been given on the following dates: the *Alcestis* in 1909, *Antigone* in 1910, *Medea* in 1911, *Oedipus Tyrannus* in 1913, *Electra* in 1914, *Antigone* in 1917, *Alcestis* in 1918, *Iphigenia in Tauris* in 1919, *Medea* in 1920. There was a second public performance of the 1910 *Antigone* in Lexington, Virginia, by invitation of Washington and Lee University. The music for the first *Alcestis* was adapted from Gluck's *Alcestis*. For the *Antigone*, Mendelssohn's well-known music was used. For the other performances the music was composed by members of the department. Since 1917 the Greek play has been one of the features of the annual celebration of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. The play chosen for presentation on the afternoon of the installation of the society was the *Antigone*. Among the spectators was Professor Shorey of the University of Chicago. His presence was an inspiration to the players, especially to "Antigone," whose Greek will always be associated with the memory of his praise of her rendering of a most difficult rôle. On Phi Beta Kappa Day of last session the *Medea* was presented. Years of experience in dealing with materials made possible a more effective costuming. The colors were selected to harmonize with the greens and tans of early spring in Virginia. The music of the 1911 performance was used and the beautiful choruses were well rendered. It was felt by the large audience that watched the play from the slopes of the natural amphitheater that such a presentation represented a distinct contribution to the intellectual atmosphere of the college.

Professor Thomas FitzHugh, who has been on leave of absence on account of his health, has returned to his work at the University of Virginia.

Dr. Walter Montgomery has been elected to the chair of Latin in William and Mary College to succeed Dr. W. A. Clark, who resigned in September.

ITALY-AMERICA SOCIETY

The Italy-America Society announces a tour to Italy for college students and instructors during the summer of 1921. The purpose of the society in organizing the trip is to give, at the lowest possible expense, the greatest possible opportunity for acquaintance not only with the art of Renaissance Italy, but also with the industry and commerce of modern Italy. It is being organized with very definite educational objects in view, for the benefit of representative young Americans who in a few years will be taking a leading part in the industrial, commercial, and intellectual life of the United States.

The party will sail on June 29 from New York direct to the Mediterranean on one of the large trans-Atlantic liners specially chartered for the occasion. On shipboard there will be classes in the Italian language and a course of lectures on Italian history, art, and culture. In Italy the party will be under the instruction of some of Italy's most distinguished scholars. A special train will be provided for the journey, and every assistance will be given by the Italian government.

The itinerary includes Gibraltar, Naples and vicinity, Rome, Florence, Bologna, Ravenna, Venice, Milan, Turin, and Paris.

The price of the tour is \$600. This includes all ocean and railway transportation, transfer and care of baggage, board and lodging at good hotels, all expenses of sight-seeing, admission to galleries and museums, carriages, automobiles, and every calculable expense connected with the tour.

Personal expenses, such as laundry, food and drink not on the regular menu, and fees to stewards on ocean steamers are not included in the price.

Baggage should be limited in the traveler's own interest. A large suitcase and possibly a handbag in addition will meet all requirements.

Sight-seeing is planned in a way to secure the best results in the time at our disposal. The party will be divided into several small groups each in charge of a leader thoroughly familiar with the subject. In so far as it is possible, each individual of the party will be given opportunity to study those things which are of particular interest. The time allotted is sufficient for seeing everything of importance in each place.

Responsibility. The American Express Company acts only as agent and accepts no responsibility in connection with the service of any steamer, train, automobile, or other conveyance which is used in the execution of this tour, and it assumes no responsibility for delay, accident, or loss to personal property or baggage or for additional expense due to war, storm, epidemic, delay, or any casualty beyond its control.

Membership may be secured by paying a deposit of sixty dollars (\$60). Money, with application for membership, properly filled out, should be sent to Irwin Smith, manager, Italy-America Society, 23 West 43d Street, New York City.

American Express travelers' checks are the universally spendable travel funds, safe, convenient, and reasonable in price. Carry them to Italy with you this summer.

For further information write to A. F. Pierce, Jr., Travel Department, American Express Company, 65 Broadway, New York City.

DANTE'S SEXCENTENARY

The sixth centenary of the death of Dante Alighieri will be celebrated at Ravenna, September 14, 1921. For several years preparations have been making in Italy to lend to the event a splendor commensurate with the influence

of Dante on modern thought. It is proposed, in particular, to restore to its original beauty the church of San Francesco, in which for six hundred years Ravenna has guarded with jealous love the remains of the great poet. The world-war has of course interfered with the plans of Italy's foremost scholars but their ardor has not been cooled, and already from various parts of war-scarred and depressed Europe are coming assurances of hearty co-operation in the various features of the approaching event.

AMERICAN PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

At its recent annual meeting the Association accepted an invitation from the Classical Association of Great Britain to join with that Association in an Anglo-American General Meeting at Cambridge, England, August 2-5, 1921.

The meeting will open with a reception on the evening of August 2 (Tuesday). Wednesday morning Dr. Walter Leaf, president of the Association of Great Britain, will deliver the usual annual address; Wednesday evening there will be a meeting at the Archaeological Museum; Thursday evening, a Greek play; Friday evening, a farewell reception. The afternoons will be largely spent in visiting the colleges of the University and in an excursion to Ely. The reading of papers will take place mainly in the morning.

THE ASSOCIATION GUILLAUME BUDÉ

At a time when France is working and reconstructing in all fields of activity, it is believed that the effort which she is successfully making in the science of philology and in the higher fields of literature cannot fail to interest her friends in America and all who are interested in the intellectual and moral progress of humanity.

During the war, an association which comprises all the great French philologues was founded under the presidency of Maurice Croiset, member of the Institute and Administrator of the Collège de France. This association chose as its patron the greatest humanist of the French Renaissance, the founder of the Collège de France, Guillaume Budé. Its purpose is to publish collections of Greek and Latin authors, historical documents and literary studies, and commentaries relating to Greek and Roman antiquity. In addition, it seeks to establish and to maintain bonds of solidarity between all those who are interested in Graeco-Latin culture.

Its first undertaking is the "Collection of the Universities of France," which comprises the principal works of Greek and Latin antiquity. Of each work there will be published an original text with a translation on the opposite page, a volume containing the text by itself, and a volume containing the translation only. In addition to the main collection, the Association Guillaume Budé will bring out a "Collection of Ancient Studies," the first volume of which, a *History of Latin Christian Literature*, has already appeared.